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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, PPS

DATE: 1 February 1957

FROM : Chief, LAS

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report # 5

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A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

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1. Plans are being completed to initiate the School's first intensive course in Spanish. Stimulus has been desire of Mr. [REDACTED] of WH. Believing we have our standard minimum of four people, we are planning the course. Failing to hold our minimum, we will arrange outside training.

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2. The School's Language Training Advisory Committee is designing a plan and schedule for production of proficiency tests. The plan will include (a) fullest use of the School's available talents, (b) use of FDD personnel in accord with agreement of six months ago between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], and (c) arrangements now being developed for a cooperative program by State, NSA, Navy, Army, Air and CIA. The plan also will provide for contracting out those tests that it is found cannot be developed by talent available from the sources used in the basic plan.

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3. [REDACTED] met to discuss models that Arch is preparing to support language and area training.

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The general calibre of our students, however, was a subject of very favorable comment. This conference will permit us to work and plan a little less in the dark than before in administering Agency participation in this program with which no member of the staff has had direct contact.

5. A Qualifications Review Panel consisting of [REDACTED] of NEA and [REDACTED] of OTR certified to the qualifications of JOT [REDACTED] for a full-time program this spring at SAIS. Another Panel [REDACTED]

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consisting of [REDACTED] of EE and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of OTR certified [REDACTED] for intensive German, favoring in this instance the Agency's course with the FSI as an alternative (second choice). Final choice of course will depend on the comparative qualifications of other candidates for the Agency's course to be considered during February.

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6. [REDACTED] of FE ([REDACTED] supervisor) came in to discuss the OTR proposal that [REDACTED] be permitted to give a Basic Country Survey--China. He was much interested in the idea and desires to cooperate if some way can be found to slot [REDACTED] for a period of 6-12 months for a full-time detail to LAS. At present, I know of no way of doing this.

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7. Arrangements for [REDACTED] survey trip to [REDACTED] have been completed. He leaves Washington on 3 February. He will be gone between two and six weeks.

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8. A recent informal survey indicates that there may be about twelve candidates for the Near Eastern program at [REDACTED]. Applications are due by 15 March to be considered by QRP on 28 March.

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9. [REDACTED] is completing final processing leading to staff employment. Following six months as a part-time instructor, [REDACTED] has completed a year as a full-time contract instructor.

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~~10. Plans are being developed for a full-time integrated area-language course to be conducted in German (intermediate) in the fall.~~

11. The integrated Russian area-language course will continue in February. Continuation was suspended in January due to lack of students. The addition of four from ORR, who had not heard of the course until we personally brought the fate of this course to ORR attention, gives us an acceptable minimum ⁷to continue. Only one person from SR, for whom this course was primarily designed, has registered. This course has been developed by one of our contract employees who formerly was an instructor.

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We have declined overtures that he return to [REDACTED]

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12. Within the next few weeks, I must decide whether or not we can afford to continue after 1 April our contract Persian instructor, due to insufficient number of students. The instructor, former head of the Persian department at the Army Language School, is repeatedly reported to me to be an outstanding instructor. In view of the Agency's paucity of Persian speakers, I shall only reluctantly give up a top-flight instructor in Persian.

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13. Counseling this week has included area and language study interests directed toward the USSR, Persia, Poland, Central Asia and China.

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14. NSA has informally replied to our formal inquiry as to whether or not it can schedule a course in Indonesian especially for Agency employees. Course will begin in early April. These special arrangements were made especially to accommodate FDD and FE.

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15. Numerous recent inquiries from our IAC agency contacts for information on upcoming area courses open to them have led [redacted] and [redacted] to furnish all with data on appropriate courses scheduled to begin in the next three months. At the same time, we have assured our contacts that an automatic procedure for alerting these agencies would soon be established by OTR. State's "R" Bureau (Intelligence) gave formal consideration last week to the desirability of regularizing the Department's submission of candidates to these courses. The State contact indicated that first the Department might place one or two students in our area courses for the particular purpose of drawing up a critique. LAS has encouraged the admission of qualified non-CIA students to the area courses partly as a quid pro quo for the School's extensive use of highly qualified speakers from other agencies.

16. Plans are being firmed up to schedule the first integrated language and area program on Germany for the autumn. Integrated programs on the USSR and Japan were introduced in 1956. The program on Germany would run 14 October through 20 December and would be full-time for intermediate German language students. They would take the annual Basic Survey course on Germany--7 hours per week--to be offered simultaneously in English. They would pursue their language study by the use of suitable current periodical materials as well as texts on German history and contemporary Germany. In addition, some special area lectures would be given in German for them, and some of the bi-lingual lecturers in the survey course would be brought back for discussion sessions in German on subjects previously introduced.

17. [redacted] checked again on the Vietnamese materials requested by the Operations School and discovered that the publication date on ACLS material has been moved up to sometime in February. He was able to obtain the first part of the material in tentative form from the Foreign Service Institute at State. This was passed on to the Operations School.

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18. [redacted] held a long conference on Wednesday, 22 January, with Messrs. [redacted] of FDD on the subject of FDD language and area requirements in the Far East. So far as area instruction is concerned, FDD said that our present and projected program adequately meets their requirements and they were and would continue to send students to all of our courses. They were more concerned with the language requirements. Their first need is for a full-time intensive program in written Chinese, using the abbreviated characters and and current PRC material. Their second most important need is for a program dealing with Vietnamese, Burmese and Indonesian, each language to be given annually on a full-time, four-month basis. They also have a need for Korean, Thai, Laotian and Khymer. They also said that there is

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a general Agency need for a course of instruction in handwritten Japanese and Chinese and suggested that we give some thought to presenting such a program. [REDACTED] then inquired of our Area Specialists Program, expressing the thought that plans should be considered for giving area instruction in the field as a part of full-time specialist training and without involvement in DDP operational activity. We assured them that we would give their requests and suggestions every consideration and within the limits of available personnel and capabilities would endeavor to meet their requirements.

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19. The office of Eastern Studies has been in touch with NSA and the Air Force, both of whom are interested in our spring area training program and desire to enroll students.

20. At the request of the Foreign Service Institute, Department of State, 20 copies of the TR Reference Manual O-529, dated October 1956, entitled "Japan, A Selected Bibliography," prepared by the OTR Library in collaboration with Eastern Studies, LAS, were sent to the Institute.

21. The carpenters, electricians, and painters are making good progress towards completion of the new quarters in Wing "G" for the Testing and Research Staff, Russian intensive instruction, and the Quarters Eye Laboratory, of the Eastern Studies.

22. About ten inquiries were received regarding the Italian film "Open City," which was scheduled for 21 January but cancelled due to Inauguration Holiday. This interest by Agency personnel indicated that more and more the OTR Bulletin is reaching the individual.

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23. Mr. [REDACTED] finished the provisional editing of all but one part of the new Spanish examination composed several months ago by Mrs. [REDACTED]. The parts completed were typed for reproduction in preparation for the next running of the examination.

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24. On 25 January, Mr. [REDACTED] of the A&E Staff to discuss the format and the calibration of the proficiency tests. In the afternoon he met with Messrs. [REDACTED] to discuss ways and means of meeting the requirements to have tests in some forty languages ready for use by 1 February 1958.

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25. Mr. [REDACTED] is preparing a lecture on Languages of the Indian Sub-Continent.

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26. Mrs. [REDACTED] of Clerical Training asked [REDACTED] for information on Russian typewriter keyboards.

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27. The two most urgent requirements for additional coverage in the area training program may be met temporarily in the next fiscal year. Hungary and Poland would be covered by [REDACTED] in a Basic Country Survey-type course grouping the European Satellites. Latin America, thus far completely untouched in this program, would be covered in a 10-week lecture series managed by [REDACTED] provided [REDACTED] Chief of the Latin America Branch in OCI, can be persuaded to prepare plans and furnish speaker leads. ✓ 25X1A9a 25X1A9a 25X1A9a

28. An informal request from OCI for a course for one student in Finnish will be discussed by [REDACTED] with FSI. An inquiry by [REDACTED] in DDP reveals no demand for such a course. 25X1A9a 25X1A9a

29. The Department of State and the Army Map Service are each sending an observer to attend Mr. [REDACTED] area training survey course on the Middle East which begins 4 February. These observers will report back on the usefulness of the OTR area program to the employees of those agencies. 25X1A9a

30. LAS has arranged for two people (one from OCI and one from ONE) to attend the FSEF Conference on the Current Situation in Latin America, which will be held at the Hotel Statler on 5 and 6 February.

31. Current enrollment in internal language training programs is 343, 227 in courses and 116 in self-study. During the past week, the language laboratory was used for a total of 328 hours by 81 students. 25X1A9a

